

taken by the examiner where the facts asserted to be well-known, or to be common knowledge in the art are capable of instant and unquestionable demonstration as being well-known." Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner produce documentary evidence to support the Examiner's assertions.

Moreover, in addition to failing to disclose the combination of features recited in the above-noted claims 1, 12 and 21, Applicants submit no proper combination of these documents discloses or suggests the combination of features recited in claims 1, 12 and 21 or in the above-noted dependent claims 3, 13, 14, 16, 22 and 24 which depend from claims 1, 12 and 21.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the above-noted rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) should be withdrawn.

Request for Rejoinder of Non-Elected Claims

Applicants further submit that rejoinder of withdrawn claims is now proper, because the withdrawn claims depend from claims 1 and 12 which are believed to be allowable.

Applicants refer the Examiner to MPEP 821.04 which indicates that withdrawn claims which depend from or otherwise include all the limitations of the allowable claims will be rejoined if presented prior to allowance and issuance of a final rejection.

Accordingly, Applicants request that the Examiner rejoin these claims directed to the non-elected invention and consider the merits of the same.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that all of the claims are patentably distinct from the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to pass the above application to issue. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below, if needed.

Respectfully submitted,
B. H. HANSON, *et al.*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrew M. Calderon", is written over a horizontal line.

Andrew M. Calderon
Reg. No. 38,093

April 19, 2006
GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C.
1950 Roland Clarke Place
Reston, VA 20191
703-716-1191